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1402432 MAR 92 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

STATE 080418

PLEASE PASS TO A/S SOLOMON

FOLLOWING TEL AVIV 03784 DTD MAR 13 SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC INFO ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE, AND BEIJING BEING REPEATED TO YOU FOR YOUR ACTION

QUOTE:

TEL AVIV 03784

FOR NEA/IAI KESSLER, PM/P AXELGARD, PM.DRSA TINSLEY, PM/DTC DIXON

E.O. 12356: DECL: DADR PARM, MCAP, MASS, ETTC, IS, US, CI

080418 1402412 STATE PAGE 02 ALLEGATIONS OF GOI TRANSFER OF PATRIOT SUBJECT: TECHNOLOGY TO CHINA

ALLEGATIONS OF GOI PATRIOT TECHNOLOG CCI SUMMARY: TRANSFER TO CHINA HAVE HIT THE ISRAEL! MEDIA. GOI THREE SOURCES -- A SPOKESMEN HAVE ISSUED FIRM DENIALS. DOVISH ANALYST, A PRO-GOI STRATEGIST ISRAELI, AND A MOD

> United States Department of State Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review Review Authority: CEHRON, W. Date: 04/15/96

Action Cer

Case ID: 9201601

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OFFICIAL -- THOUGHT THE CHARGES UNTRUE, BUT THEY AGREED THAT: IF CONFIRMED, THE ACT WOULD HAVE BEEN EXCEPTIONALLY STUPID. ONE SUGGESTED THAT THE STORY IN THE "SHINGTON TIMES," MAY HAVE BEEN LEAKED BY A LOW LEVEL USG ANALYST WHO HAD ALLOWED HIS JUDGMENT TO BE CLOUDED BY TENSIONS IN THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. CONTACTS WERE CONCERNED OVER THE IMPACT OF THE STORY. END COMMENT.

PATRIOT STORY HITS THE WIRES

2. (U) ALL ISRAELI MEDIA MARCH 13 HEADLINED THE WASHINGTON TIMES STORY OF ALLEGED U.S. ACCUSATIONS THAT ISRAEL HAS SUPPLIED PATRIOT MISSILES OR TECHNOLOGY TO CHINA, TOGETHER WITH A DENIAL THEFEOF BY MOD SPOKESMAN DANNY NAVEH, CHARACTERIZING IT AS "TOTALLY FALSE AND BASELESS," ACCORDING TO THE "JERUSALEM POST," AND "A BASELESS LIE," ACCORDING TO THE "VOICE OF ISRAEL" RADIO. THE "POST" CITED REUTERS REPORTS OF UNIDENTIFIED "NYC JEWISH SOURCES" EXPLAINING THE LEAK AS A RESPONSE TO SECRETARY BAKER'S ALLEGED INSULT TO JEWISH VOTERS.

OPPOSITION REACTION: "TOO DUMB TO BE TRUE ..."

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3. (C) A
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE
, TOLD POLOFF MARCH 13 THAT
HE THOUGHT THE STORY WAS "BALONEY." "WE ISRAELIS DO ILLEGAL THINGS FROM TIME TO TIME, BUT THIS WOULD BE JUST TOD GROSS." HE SAID. ADDED THAT THERE SEEMED TO
TOO GROSS, " HE SAID. ADDED THAT THERE SEEMED TO
BE A PATTERN: EACH TIME DEFMIN ARENS GOES TO THE U.S.,
"SOMETHING IS WAITING FOR HIM"
RIGHTIST ANALYST DOWNPLAYS THE STORY
A LIKUD-ORIENTED STRATEGIC THINKER DESCRIBED THE AFFAIR AS "ARENS
GETTING A PIE IN THE FACE. " HE CLAIMED THAT WHEN ARENS
GETTING THE AREA OF THE AREA OF THE AREA
PREVIOUSLY MET AS FORMIN WITH SECRETARY BAKERS HARRIS

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HOULD BE SURPRISED THE NEXT DAY BY DESCRIPTIONS OF HIS
CONVERSATIONS IN THE PRESS OR IN CONGRESSIONAL
TESTIMONY. SAID THAT MOST ISRAELIS HOPED THE STORY
WAS NOT TRUE, BUT IF IT WERE, IT WAS "STUPID, HORRIBLE,
AND THOSE RESPONSIBLE ARE FOOLS. " HE THOUGHT IT
REFLECTED EXISTING TENSIONS IN GOI-USG RELATIONS, AND
WAS AN INTENTIONAL LEAK NOT NECESSARILY HIGH LEVEL
BUT PERHAPS BY SOME ANALYST DOWN IN THE "BOILER ROOM."
SAW A PATTERN: WHEN THE ATMOSPHERE AT THE TOP OF
GOI-USG RELATIONS IS NOT GOOD, TENSION RADIATES
DOWNWARD, COLORING THE ATTITUDES OF UNDERLINGS.
OBSERVED THAT TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ISSUES REQUIRE
MEETINGS BY TEAMS OF EXPFRTS TO THRASH DUT WHERE ONE

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COUNTRY'S TECHNOLOGY ENDS AND ANOTHER'S BEGINS.
SAW ISRAEL AS BEING SINGLED DUO, CLAIMING FOR EXAMPLE
THAT A LOT OF "DIRT" ON JORDAN AND EGYPT THESE DAYS GOES
UNNOTICED.

MOD OFFICIAL CALLS IT A CANARD

TALSO THOUGHT THERE WAS NOTHING IN THE STURY. "IT WOULD BE STUPID" FOR THE GOI TO DO ANYTHING OF THE SORT, HE REPEATED, AND SAID HE DID NOT REMEMBER HEARING SUCH A FLAT, STRONG DENIAL IN A LONG TIME. HE NOTED THAT THE CHINESE HAD ALSO OFFICIALLY DENIED IT. "I'M AFRAID THIS STORY IS WHAT OUR ISRAELI JOURNALISTS CALL A 'DUCK'," HE SAID.

6. (C) COMMENT: DESPITE THEIR SKEPTICISM, WE SENSE AN UNDERCURRENT OF NERVOUSNESS IN OUR ISRAELI CONTACTS. SINCE VERY FEW HERE WOULD HAVE ACCESS TO SUCH INFORMATION, THOUGHTFUL ISRAELIS HOPE IT IS NOT TRUE,

AND FEAR PROBLEMS IN THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP IF IT SHOULD BE. MEANWHILE, DUR USIS PRESS ATTACHE HAS RETEIVED NO INQUIRIES FROM ISRAELIS. HARROP UNQUOTE BAKER



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FOR NEA/IAI KESSLER, PM/P AXELGARD, PM/DRSA TINSLEY, PM/DTC DIXON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 TEL AVIV 03784

E.O. 12356:DECL: OADR

CONTROLS

INQUIRE = DOC17D

/******* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE **********/ BODY TAGS: PARM, MCAP, MASS, ETTC, IS, US, CI SUBJECT: ALLEGATIONS OF GOI TRANSFER OF PATRIOT TECHNOLOGY TO CHINA

SUMMARY: ALLEGATIONS OF GOI PATRIOT TECHNOLOGY (0) TRANSFER TO CHINA HAVE HIT THE ISRAELI MEDIA. SPOKESMEN HAVE ISSUED FIRM DENIALS.

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PATRIOT STORY HITS THE WIRES

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HARROP

ADMIN

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